

**Amendments to the Claims**

**Listing of Claims**

Claim 1 (currently amended): A method of changing the audible volume level of a digital signal comprising:

5 providing a destination volume to a DSP; and  
with the DSP, gradually incrementing the volume level of the digital signal  
by a volume level increment to the destination volume within a  
predetermined time period;  
whereby any destination volume is achieved in the digital signal in the same  
10 amount of time and a size of the volume level increment is determined  
as according to the destination volume[[,]] minus the volume level of  
the digital signal,and divided by the predetermined time period.

Claim 2 (original): The method of claim 1 wherein the incrementing step further  
15 comprises:

gradually incrementing the digital signal within a predetermined sample  
number corresponding to the predetermined time period.

Claim 3 (previously presented): The method of claim 2 wherein the incrementing step  
20 further comprises:

subtracting the current volume value of the digital signal from the  
destination volume;

dividing the result from the subtracting step by the predetermined sample  
number to obtain a volume step;

25 incrementing the output signal by the volume step in a continuous fashion  
until the volume destination is reached.

Claim 4 (original): The method of claim 3 wherein the result from the subtracting  
step is a positive number.

Claim 5 (original): The method of claim 3 wherein the result from the subtracting step is a negative number.

5      Claim 6 (original): The method of claim 2 wherein the predetermined sample number is user-selectable.

Claim 7 (withdrawn): A Digital Signal Processor (DSP) for adjusting the volume of a digital signal stored in a data stream, the DSP comprising:

10     a processing unit for processing the data stream;  
a first memory coupled to the processing unit for storing a destination volume value; and

a second memory coupled to the processing unit for storing a time\_determining value;

15     wherein the processing unit adjusts the volume of the signal stored in the data stream according to the time\_determining value such that the adjustment from a current volume value of the signal to the destination volume value is accomplished within a predetermined time.

20     Claim 8 (withdrawn): The DSP in claim 7 further comprising a program memory coupled to the processing unit for storing a program controlling the flow of operations in the DSP.

Claim 9 (withdrawn): The DSP in claim 8 wherein the program memory comprises a  
25     ROM type memory.

Claim 10 (withdrawn): The DSP in claim 7 wherein the first memory comprises a register.

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Claim 11 (withdrawn): The DSP in claim 7 wherein the second memory comprises a register.

5 Claim 12 (withdrawn): The DSP in claim 7 further comprising a data memory for storing temporary variables.

Claim 13 (withdrawn): The DSP in claim 12 wherein the data memory comprises an SRAM type memory.

10 Claim 14 (withdrawn): The DSP in claim 7 wherein the second memory stores a sample number corresponding to the predetermined time.